

5 August 1960

Briefing Sheet for the Chairman, JCS, on a Report by the J-5, for the Operations Deputies Meeting, Tuesday, 9 August 1960, Agenda Item No. 8

J.C.S. 1907/274

Subject: Military and Non-military Countermeasures in the Berlin Crisis (Checklist) (U)

Background - As a result of the 23 April 59 NSC Meeting, the President approved in principle studies related to further Berlin Contingency Planning. The President specifically charged the U.S. Coordinating Group for Berlin Contingency Planning with the responsibility for the development of general political, economic and military measures as outlined in the studies, with particular reference to selection and timing, with major decisions being referred to the President for approval as necessary.

- At the 23 May 60 Meeting of the U.S. Coordinating Group for Berlin Contingency Planning, the JCS representative recommended that a Working Group be established to develop a coordinated checklist of military and non-military measures for Berlin contingencies in accordance with the above. The purpose of the checklist would be to facilitate the action of the Coordinating Group in making its recommendations to the President regarding the selection and timing of any measures recommended. It was decided that such a Working Group would be established under the Chairmanship of Mr. Hillenbrand, Department of State, with representatives from JCS, OSD(ISA) and CIA to prepare such a checklist of possible military and non-military countermeasures.

- On 10 June 60 the SecDef also requested the JCS to furnish him with a list of those military measures with respect to the Berlin Crisis that will require his attention and decision, including where appropriate the estimated lead time from decision to achievement of capability.

Current Paper:

a. Contains, for notation by the JCS, a checklist of military and non-military measures that could be taken under various contingencies with regard to the Berlin situation. This list has been prepared in collaboration with representatives of OSD(ISA), State and CIA, and is responsive to the requirements established by the President.

b. Incorporates a memorandum for SecDef which incloses this same checklist for his information and informs him that the JCS would apprise him on a case-by-case basis of items therein which might require his personal attention and decision.

Service Comments - It is expected that the Services will support the paper as written.

Comments and Recommendations - International Policy Branch, J-5, recommends that the Chairman, JCS, support the paper as written.

Opinion as to Recommendations:

Director, J-5 _____ (Concur) (Non-concur)

Director, Joint Staff _____ (Concur) (Non-concur)

Briefing Sheet prepared by: Col. R.M. Fawell, Jr., USMC
Extension 76468
International Policy Branch, J-5

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